

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 125491

FOL SENT ACTION SECSTATE WASHDC ALL OAS CAPITALS JUNE 22,
1973 FROM LIMA REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 4327

FROM KUBISCH

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OAS

SUBJ: ARGENTINE SPEECH AT OAS SPECIAL COMMITTEE IN LIMA

1. VAZQUEZ , ARGENTINE FOREIGN MINISTRY SUBSECRETARY,
DELIVERED A SPEECH AT LAST NIGHT' S PLENARY WHICH STRONGLY
CRITICIZED THE OAS AND INTER- AMERICAN SYSTEM FOR THEIR
FAILURES AND WAS ESPECIALLY CRITICAL OF THE UNITED STATES.
SPEECH WAS POLEMICAL AND UNCONSTRUCTIVE; SOME OF CHARGES
WERE TYPICAL, IN CONTENT AND TONE, OF FAR LEFT EXCEEDING
EVEN THE EXTREMES OF CHILEAN REPRESENTATIVES AT CIES
AND ECLA MEETINGS IN BOGOTA AND QUITO RESPECTIVELY. WE
HAVE RESERVED THE RIGHT OF REPLY.

2. MOST OF OFFICIAL DELEGATIONS HAVE BEEN EMBARRASSED AND
DISCOMFITED BY VAZQUEZ SPEECH, FOR VARYING REASONS. EVEN
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CHILEANS HAVE BEEN RELATIVELY RESTRAINED -- THUS FAR AT LEAST -- THEIR DELEGATION CHIEF COMMENTING TO PRESS HERE MERELY THAT SPEECH INDICATES THE " RESTLESSNESS" IN THE CONTINENT. A NUMBER OF OTHER DELEGATIONS HAVE EXPRESSED HOPE AND EXPECTATION THAT USDEL WILL NOT FEEL CONSTRAINED TO MAKE A DIRECT REBUTTAL, ALTHOUGH THE PRESS NATURALLY WANTS THAT.

3. GIVEN DEVELOPING SITUATION HERE -- WE HAVE HEARD PUBLICLY FROM ONLY PERU AND ARGENTINA THUS FAR -- AND MINDFUL OF INTERNAL SITUATION IN ARGENTINA AND OUR EVOLVING BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP WITH CAMPORA GOVERNMENT, WE ARE MAKING NO DIRECT PUBLIC COMMENT ON VAZQUEZ SPEECH AT THIS TIME. WE ARE TAKING LINE THAT THIS IS A JOINT ENDEAVOR OF TWENTY- THREE GOVERNMENTS; THAT WE HAVE HEARD FROM SEVERAL DELEGATIONS AND EXPECT TO HEAR FROM THE OTHERS; THAT OUR OWN APPROACH TO THESE MEETINGS IS POSITIVE, CONSTRUCTIVE, AND OPEN- MINDED; AND THAT WE WILL MAKE OUR OWN VIEWS KNOWN ON THE VARIOUS PROPOSALS DURING THE COURSE OF THE COMMITTEE' S REGULAR MEETINGS AND DELIBERATIONS.

4. FYI. KUBISCH MAY ALSO MAKE A GENERAL PUBLIC STATEMENT TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON MONDAY. END FYI.

5. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT VAZQUEZ BY THE EXCESSES OF HIS REMARKS, HIS YOUTH (AGE 30) AND INEXPERIENCE, HIS DEMOGOGIC DELIVERY (HE SPOKE AS THOUGH TO A PERONIST YOUTH MEETING), AND HIS ALMOST CAVALIER AND ARROGANT APPROACH TO THIS MEETING AND ITS DISTINGUISHED LATIN AMERICAN OFFICIALS (HE ARRIVED YESTERDAY AFTERNOON FOR SPECIAL PLENARY SESSIN HE HAD REQUESTED TO MAKE HIS SPEECH AND DEPARTED LIMA THIS MORNING)--- WITH ALL OF THIS, HE MAY HAVE DISCREDITED TO SOME EXTENT THE EXTREMIST APPROACH TO THESE SESSIONS. UNLESS, OF COURSE, WE IMMEDIATELY FUEL IT BY OUR PUBLIC INDIGNATION AND DIRECT REBUTTAL, WHICH COULD MAKE IT PROFITABLE FOR OTHERS OF HIS ILK TO DO THE SAME.

6. THEREFORE, UNLESS DEPARTMENT INSTRUCTS OTHERWISE FROM WASHINGTON, SUGGEST ARA POSTS REFRAIN FOR THE CONFIDENTIAL

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TIME BEING FROM COMMENTING ON VAZQUEZ AND HIS SPEECH, AND FOLLOW WITH BOTH PRESS AND HOST GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS THE GENERAL LINE INDICATED PARA 3 ABOVE. BELCHER UNQUOTE ROGERS

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